

days for the lack of a quorum, the first order of business was the election of a President pro tempore, who is a constitutional officer. The Senate is required to elect a Member of the body to serve as the President pro tempore in the absence of the Vice President.

When the Senate met on April 6th, 1789 there was no Vice President. There was no President. And once the President pro tempore was elected—his name was John Langdon from New Hampshire—the Senate then notified the House that it was organized and ready to count the electoral ballots.

So the selection of the President pro tempore was first because the Senate had to have a Presiding Officer. And there was no Vice President. There was no Vice President until April 21st of 1789 when the Vice President, John Adams, took the oath of office.

So I say this because sometimes we vary from precedent without thinking about it. And it escaped my notice that this was done, I think, in the last Congress when the President pro tempore was elected.

But in any event, for the record, I hope that in the future we will follow the practice of the Members of the Senate of 1789, when a President pro tempore is to be elected.

In the old days they elected a President pro tempore perhaps for the occasion, or one for a single day. But the practice now is that we elect a President pro tempore, who serves until another is elected—he retires, or passes on to another world, or his party loses control and a new President pro tempore is elected, or until his own term as Senator expires and he is reelected, as was the case today.

I thank all Senators for their indulgence. And especially I thank our two fine leaders. I am also very favorably impressed with both leaders. I know that they are going to do the Senate proud and do all of us proud.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from West Virginia for that information. And certainly we want to follow the precedents very closely. I will make sure that we look carefully at those and be prepared to elect a President pro tempore first the next time. Certainly, my feeling is that there is no higher honor nor greater responsibility nor greater opportunity than electing the Senator from South Carolina as the leader and as President pro tempore of the Senate.

So I thank Senator BYRD for his comments.

NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk notifying the President of the election of Senator THURMOND, and ask that the resolution be reported by title, agreed to, and that motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 5) notifying the President of the United States of the election of a President pro tempore.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 5) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 5

Resolved, That the President of the United States be notified of the election of STROM THURMOND, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, as President pro tempore.

NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a resolution to the desk notifying the House of the election of Senator THURMOND, and ask that the resolution be reported by title, agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 6) notifying the House of Representatives of the election of a President pro tempore of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 6) was agreed to, as follows:

S. RES. 6

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of STROM THURMOND, a Senator from the State of South Carolina, as President pro tempore.

EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES AND THE PROVISIONS OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 48

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I send a concurrent resolution to the desk extending the life of the Joint Inaugural Committee, and ask that the resolution be reported by title, agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) to extend the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and the provisions of S. Con. Res. 48.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 2) was agreed to, as follows:

S. CON. RES. 2

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That effective from January 3, 1997, the joint committee created by Senate Concurrent Resolution 47 of the One Hundred Fourth Congress, to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration

is hereby continued with the same power and authority.

SEC. 2. That effective from January 3, 1997, the provisions of Senate Concurrent Resolution 48 of the One Hundred Fourth Congress, to authorize the rotunda of the United States Capitol to be used in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President of the United States, and for other purposes, are hereby continued with the same power and authority.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT AGREEMENTS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, these unanimous-consent requests are those of the standing orders—for example, the setting of leaders' time each day—which are obtained at the beginning of each Congress which govern our day-to-day activities. As in the past, these consents have been cleared with the Democratic leader. Therefore, I send to the desk 11 unanimous-consent requests and ask for their immediate consideration en bloc, that the requests be agreed to en bloc, and that the various consents be shown separately in the RECORD.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 105th Congress, the Ethics Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the duration of the 105th Congress, there be a limitation of 15 minutes each upon any rollcall vote, with the warning signal to be sounded at the midway point, beginning at the last 7½ minutes, and when rollcall votes are of 10-minute duration, the warning signal be sounded at the beginning of the last 7½ minutes.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that during the Congress, it be in order for the Secretary of the Senate to receive reports at the desk when presented by a Senator at any time during the day of the session of the Senate.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority and minority leaders may daily have up to 10 minutes each on each calendar day following the prayer and disposition of the reading of, or the approval of, the Journal.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives and his three assistants be given the privilege of the floor during the 105th Congress.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXVIII, conference reports and statements accompanying them not be printed as Senate reports when such conference reports and statements have been printed as a House report unless specific request is made in the Senate in each instance to have such a report printed.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be authorized during the 105th